

USUAL NEW YEAR CUSTOMS LACKING

Official White House Reception
Abandoned Because of Mrs.
Wilson's Death.

DAY IS QUIET IN WASHINGTON

Many Diplomats and Officials
Leave Cards With Greet-
ings for President.

WASHINGTON, January 1.—The usual White House New Year reception, abandoned this year because of Mrs. Wilson's death, was replaced today by a steady stream of foreign diplomats and government officials who called and left their cards with greetings for President Wilson. With the exception of Secretaries Daniels and Bryan, who are in North Carolina, most of the Cabinet members came to the White House and left cards.

The President received no callers and made no visits. He played his usual game of golf and took a long automobile ride. The only members of his family with him were Mrs. Francis B. Sayre and Miss Margaret Wilson, his daughters, and Miss Helen Woodruff, his cousin. The President began the year by rising at a clock to push an electric button that opened the San Diego exposition at midnight, Pacific Coast time.

New Year's greetings to the President from rulers of other nations and from many Americans reached the White House today.

King Albert of Belgium sent the following message:

"On the occasion of the New Year I send you my most sincere congratulations and the wishes I form for the welfare of the great American nation, whose generosity to Belgium is of so much help in this time of distress and sorrow."

King George of Great Britain sent the following:

"I afford me sincere pleasure to convey to you on the commencement of the New Year my hearty good wishes for your personal happiness and for the welfare and prosperity of the United States of America, to which we are united by such close ties of friendship and intimacy."

Count von Bernstorff, German ambassador to the United States, sent the following:

"Please accept my most sincere and respectful wishes for a very happy New Year for yourself, your family and country."

DAY AT CAPITAL

Unusually quiet in the national capital was observed today. The annual "diplomatic breakfast" by the Secretary of State to the members of the diplomatic corps had been abandoned because of the war, and many other time-honored ceremonies which usually play so important a part in the Washington official New Year celebration were omitted for the same reason.

In official and diplomatic circles the day was observed with the usual exchanges of greetings, though many of the diplomats were unable to greet old friends of the corps, having become estranged at the last officially, since 1914 was ushered in.

The practice instituted many years ago by the Naval Observatory in sending a New Year greeting to all the world's cities, by cable and land telegraph was abandoned.

Under existing war conditions, with so large a proportion of the cable and telegraph lines in the hands of the enemy, the officials said the feat of kindling the globe was impracticable.

Both houses of Congress had adjourned until Saturday.

CUSTOMARY CELEBRATIONS

ENTIRELY LACKING

BERLIN, January 1 (via The Hague and London, 1:05 P. M.).—Berlin showed strikingly last night for the first time since the war's outbreak, the life of the city is not proceeding normally. Customary celebrations to welcome the New Year were almost entirely lacking.

Merry throngs which formerly crowded Berlin's thoroughfares on New Year's Eve were replaced last night by a limited gathering, whose seriousness of intent gave the occasion a distinctly solemn aspect. There was no noise. Even the customary "Prosit Neujahr" was missing.

The same quiet prevailed everywhere. All amusement places were closed at 1 o'clock.

PREDICTS END OF WAR IN 1915

President Poincaré Addresses Foreign
Diplomats on New Year's Day.

PARIS, January 1.—Prediction that 1915 would be the end of the war was made by President Poincaré in an address to foreign diplomats who went to the Palace of the Elisee to present New Year's congratulations.

The British ambassador, Sir Francis Bertie, as dean of the diplomatic corps, presented the congratulations of his colleagues and himself. In his address Sir Francis remarked that the diplomats present comprised "representatives of the nations fighting at the side of France, and of the nations where neutrality imposes special duties on this grave crisis."

American Ambassador Sharp was among those present. He was accompanied by three former ministers who are aiding him in the embassy during the war—John W. Garrett, H. Percival Dodge and John G. Coolidge.

President Poincaré exchanged New Year's greetings by telegraph with General Joffre and King of Great Britain, Belgium and Serbia and the Emperor of Russia.

WILSON THANKS POINCARE

Pleased With Visit of Eugene Brieux to
Science Meetings.

WASHINGTON, January 1.—President Wilson has written a letter to thanking him for a letter from the French Academy recently brought to this country by Eugene Brieux, the dramatist.

Brieux came as a special representative of the French Academy to attend a meeting of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the National Institute of Arts and Letters, held at the White House with Ambassador Jusserand.

Mr. Wilson addressed the French President as "a colleague in letters" and spoke of the warm feeling held by himself and the American people for the French government and people.

FOR STUDY AFTER DEATH

Scientists Will Ask Prominent Men to
Bequeath Their Brains.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., January 1.—Efforts to induce eminent scientists, captains of industry and political leaders to permit their brains to be examined after death will be made by members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. This announcement was made today at the closing session of the association's annual convention. Copies of the addresses on the brain made yesterday will be sent broadcast, and at the association's midsummer meeting at San Francisco in August every delegate will be asked to bequeath his brain to specialists for study.

Three members of the association—Dr. Edward Pickering, Harvard; Dr. Henry Skinner, Academy of Natural Science, Philadelphia; and Dr. J. O. Howard, Washington, permanent secretary of the association—announced that they contemplate bequeathing their brains to the cause of scientific investigation.

"Science has studied the brains of plenty of murderers," declared Dr. Howard, "but it is not often a brain of a man of really high culture may be compared with those of criminals or men of lower mentality."

BRYAN AT ASHEVILLE

Inspects Property on Which He Is to
Build Summer Home.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., January 1.—Clad in a mountain-climber's outfit, Secretary of State William J. Bryan, who is spending the holidays here today, tramped over the ten-acre tract of land on Sunset Mountain, which he recently purchased with the intention of building a summer home.

While conducting his tour of inspection Mr. Bryan received a message from Mrs. Bryan at Tucson, Ariz., announcing the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. William Jennings Bryan, Jr.

To-night Secretary Bryan was the guest of honor at a dinner given at a local hotel. To-morrow, he says, he will cut down some trees on his property.

When asked for a statement relative to the United States' note of protest to Great Britain, Secretary Bryan declared that he could not discuss even in an informal way such delicate affairs of state.

WAR ON AMBULANCE CHASERS

Campaign Begun by District Attorney
Martin, of the Bronx.

NEW YORK, January 1.—A campaign against the "ambulance chasers" trust, so-called by District Attorney Martin, of the Bronx, was begun today with the arrest at Bridgeport, Conn., of Dennis Murray, foreman of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, on a warrant charging perjury. Murray was released on bail.

A confession obtained from Murray, according to the police, revealed that an organization of influential lawyers exists for the purpose of suing large corporations, particularly the New Haven road, for slight or imaginary injuries in accident cases.

The alleged perjury in Murray's case concerned his testimony at a coroner's jury a year ago into the death of a New Haven line man.

REORGANIZATION OF ARMY

British Order Announces Development
of Present Organization.

LONDON, January 1 (5:10 P. M.).—An army order issued tonight announces that the present plan of military organization will be further developed by creation of six armies, each consisting generally of three army corps.

The first army will be commanded by Lieutenant General Sir Douglas Haig, who headed the first army corps of the expeditionary force; the second by General Sir John Smith-Dorrien; the third by Lieutenant General Sir Archibald Hunter; the fourth by General Sir Ian Hamilton; the fifth by General Sir Leslie Huddle; and the sixth by General Sir Bruce M. Hamilton.

This reorganization follows on the absorption of Lord Kitchener's army into the regular army.

URGES PAY FOR DRILLS

Illinois Governor Suggests Incentive
for Young Men to Become Soldiers.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., January 1.—"If the national government wishes the States to maintain a citizen soldiery, it should furnish in the shape of pay for their time a greater incentive to young men to become soldiers," was the declaration today of Governor Dunne, addressing officers of the Illinois National Guard on their annual New Year drill.

The Governor declared that training of State troops was for the benefit of the national government. "Soldiers who have attended forty or more weekly drills in the course of a year should be paid at least \$150 for each night so spent," said the Governor. "If the national government wishes young men of Illinois to attend drills that they may become proficient soldiers, then they should be paid for each night they attend drills."

DR. BISBEE SENTENCED

Bristol, Vt., Druggist Gets From
Twelve to Fifteen Years in Prison.

MIDDLEBURY, Vt., January 1.—A State prison sentence of twelve to fifteen years was imposed today on Dr. Don A. Bisbee, a Bristol druggist, convicted yesterday of manslaughter in causing the deaths of several persons by selling them liquor containing denatured alcohol. Bisbee admitted a violation of the law in selling spirits to a beverage, but said he was ignorant of the presence of the poison.

ROME GREETS NEW YEAR

People at Open Windows, Glass in
Hand, Cry "Viva Italy."

ROME, January 1.—Rome adopted a unique way of celebrating the entry of the New Year. Usually the event is marked by the explosion of fireworks and the firing of guns, but, as that was prohibited this year, the people generally agreed to appear at open windows, glass in hand, and the effect was most impressive.

TEN KILLED IN WRECK

Many Others Injured When Train Col-
lides on English Railway.

LONDON, January 1.—Ten persons were killed and many others injured in a train collision this morning on the Great Eastern Railway near Ilford, five miles from London. Some of the rail-road cars were reduced to splinters. The victims of the accident are mostly city clerks.

GERMANS DESTROY BRITISH WARSHIP

The Formidable Sent to Bottom
at Some Point in English
Channel.

LOSS OF LIFE VERY HEAVY

Only 150 Members of Crew of
750 Known to Have Been
Saved.

Vessel Torpedoed Both Fore and Aft

LONDON, January 2 (3:42 A. M.).—The Daily Chronicle states that survivors of the battleship Formidable report that the vessel was torpedoed both fore and aft early Friday morning and sank almost immediately.

The Chronicle's British correspondent, who is authority for the foregoing, says the captain of the trawler Providence, which rescued seventy survivors who had escaped from the battleship in a cutter, states that other fishing boats were close at hand. The captain expresses the belief that other survivors have been rescued and taken to Dartmouth. He says no other boats belonging to the Formidable, however.

The Chronicle's Chatham correspondent says the Formidable left that port on Thursday morning.

Gen. Limon Von Sanders and Officers of his Staff

General von Sanders assumed command of the Turkish forces when Enver Pasha fled from the front in the fighting near Samsun. It is interesting to note the German officers to whose ability is due the present efficiency of the Turkish army, which was instructed by the group shown in the upper photo. General Limon von Sanders (fifth from left) was formerly instructor-in-chief of the Sultan's forces, and is now its commander-in-chief. His staff officers, who surround him, were formerly instructors under him.

REV. ROBERT S. COUPLAND DECLINES ST. JAMES CALL

Mails Letter From New Orleans, Giv-
ing His Reasons for Not
Coming.

CONGREGATION DISAPPOINTED

Vestry Will Take No Step Toward
Another Call Until Receipt of Mr.
Coupland's Letter—Dr. Darst to
Become Bishop of East Carolina.

Rev. Robert S. Coupland, of New Orleans, last night declined the call recently extended him to become the rector of St. James Episcopal Church in this city. Members of the vestry would make no statement in regard to the resignation, not having received a letter from Mr. Coupland in which he gives his reasons for declining the call. Mr. Coupland is rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, New Orleans, the richest and most fashionable congregation in that city.

He stated to a representative of The Times-Dispatch in New Orleans last night that he had declined the call, but said that until a letter he had written to members of the Richmond congregation and mailed last night arrived in Richmond, he would not announce what had caused him to decline the call.

"I had no intention of announcing until next week that I had declined the call to Richmond," said Mr. Coupland, but, since the people of Richmond seem sure that I will not do it, I admit that I have, but I will not divulge my reasons until they themselves announce them." Mr. Coupland indicated that he would remain at Trinity Church.

ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION NOW PREVAILS IN RUSSIA

Least Appeal Against Decree Falls
When Petrograd and Moscow
Councils Uphold It.

FINAL ORDER IS UNEXPECTED

No Opportunity to Provide Stock
Against Coming Period of Absti-
nence—Prohibition Becomes Part
of Colorado Constitution.

PETROGRAD (via London), January 1.—The last appeal against Russia's prohibition decree failed on Thursday, when the Councils of Petrograd and Moscow rejected a petition to authorize the sale of beer and light wines. The recent law ordered to discontinue selling all alcoholic drinks was issued with the reservation that the City Councils should have the right to appeal for an authorization of the recommencement of the sale of 3 per cent beer and light wine.

The final prohibition order was so unexpectedly issued that there was no time to make a stock against the coming period of abstinence. Between 6 and 8 o'clock in the evening the merchants received instructions that next day there would be absolute prohibition, and there was no chance to give warning to eager customers who, on a false alarm previously spread abroad, lined the streets for hours awaiting their turn to squeeze into the crowded wine shops. The formerly popular restaurants, which managed to weather the vodka diet, are now almost without patronage.

The liquor dealers, restaurant keepers, wine growers and distillers brought all possible influence to bear on the City Councils for authorizing the sale of beer and light wines, assisted by theorists who, while approving of general sobriety, thought that abstinence should come gradually, and that the sudden cessation of the use of all alcohol would have an injurious effect. But despite these influences and the fact that not 1 per cent of the members of the City Councils were teetotalers, the councils rejected the petition by a vote on a ratio of more than 4 to 1.

The extreme measures to enforce prohibition even extend to the sale of denatured alcohol, which is now conceivably alcoholic compound which are not salable without a permit.

STATEWIDE PROHIBITION EFFECTIVE IN COLORADO

DENVER, Colo., January 1.—State-
wide prohibition became a part of the
Constitution of Colorado today with
the issuance by Governor Ammons of
proclamations putting into effect a
constitutional amendment approved at
the November election.

Prohibition under the amendment will become effective January 1, 1916.

VIOLATION AND ARREST BY PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENT

TUCSON, ARIZ., January 1.—Louis
Jerna was arrested for selling a pint
of whiskey early today after Ariz-
ona's prohibition had gone into effect.
His violation of the law and immediate
arrest was by previous arrangement.
For the purpose of testing the self-ex-
ecuting feature of the prohibition law
that the constitutional amendment
should go into effect to-day.

HOT SPRINGS ONLY "WET"

HOT SPRINGS, ARK., January 1.—
Hot Springs saloons were reopened at
noon today, making that city the only
"wet" spot in the State. Saloons in all
other cities were closed at midnight
last night, and under the statutes peti-
tions, containing a majority of the
names of white adult citizens, must be
presented to the county court before
licenses may be issued.

The Hot Springs petition contained
about 3,000 names, and licenses were
reissued without contest from the anti-
liquor forces.

ONLY FIFTEEN COUNTIES IN KENTUCKY "WET"

LEXINGTON, Ky., January 1.—Nine
counties in Kentucky became "dry"
at midnight last night, liquor having been
voted out last September. Only fifteen
counties out of 120 in Kentucky remain
in the "wet" column.

Officers of the State Prohibition
(Continued on Third Page.)

NEWS FROM BATTLE FRONTS DWARFED BY LOSS TO NAVY



Gen. Limon Von Sanders and Officers of his Staff

General von Sanders assumed command of the Turkish forces when Enver Pasha fled from the front in the fighting near Samsun. It is interesting to note the German officers to whose ability is due the present efficiency of the Turkish army, which was instructed by the group shown in the upper photo. General Limon von Sanders (fifth from left) was formerly instructor-in-chief of the Sultan's forces, and is now its commander-in-chief. His staff officers, who surround him, were formerly instructors under him.

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Officers of the State Prohibition
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WIDESPREAD GRIEF CAUSED IN NATION BY THIS DISASTER

About 600 Men of Formida-
ble's Crew Probably
Went Down.

FIGHTING IN PROGRESS AT MANY POINTS ON LINE

In Flanders and Northern France
Confined Largely to Ar-
tillery Engagements.

BOTH SIDES CLAIM GAINS

On Whole Situation Seems Virtually
to Have Reached Position of
Stalemate.

Scene of Disaster Not Yet Announced

THE outstanding feature of the
European war news is the
sinking by a mine or a torpedo in
the North Sea of the British battle-
ship Formidable, with a probable
loss of 600 lives. Only 150 men of
her crew of 750 are known to have
been saved. The ship was struck
with great difficulty by a British
cruiser and seventy by a trawler.
Eight officers and six midshipmen
were among the rescued.

The British admiralty has not
made known just where the ship
was blown up. Neither has it made
a definite assertion as to whether
the disaster was caused by a mine
or an attack by a German subma-
rine.

There is a paucity of news con- cerning fighting on land, where the armies of the allies and the Ger- mans are carrying out manoeuvres which have been in effect for many days. In the entrenched line in Flanders and France artillery duels and infantry attacks continue, but without decisive results.

In Poland the Germans are trying to get through to Warsaw, and the Russians are disputing vigorously their every move. North of the Vienna and along the East Prussian frontier, fog envelops and hinders the armies' movements.

In Galicia and the Carpathians the Russians and Austrians are fighting hard for supremacy. Vienna says nothing is doing in the Carpathians are unchanged, but that in Galicia the Russian attacks have been pulsed with heavy casualties to the Russians and a loss of 2,000 prisoners and six machine guns.

Four Austrian monitors bom- barded Belgrade, Serbia, on Thurs- day, but with slight damage.

President Poincaré, of France, in a New Year's address to the diplo- matic corps, said he had no doubt that next year at the traditional reception the diplomats would cele- brate together the establishment of peace.

Flight Commander Hewlett, one of the British navy aviators en- gaged in the recent raid on Cux- haven, expressed the belief that a bomb dropped by him struck a Ger- man warship at Helgoland, and that smoke rose from the vessel shortly after he dropped the missile.

Emperor Francis Joseph received the New Year greetings of the im- perial family, and presided over the family dinner.

A cargo of American copper, which, it is alleged, was to be smuggled through Denmark into Germany, has been seized at Copen- hagen.

LONDON, January 1 (10:10 P. M.).— The destruction of the British battle- ship Formidable in the English Chan- nel to-day by a mine or a submarine boat, although one of those events Englishmen now realize must be ex- pected so long as the British navy is compelled to keep the seas, has caused widespread grief.

This is due not so much to the loss of the ship, which was fifteen years old and cost about \$5,000,000, as it is believed to have gone down with her crew of 750 are known to have been rescued. A light cruiser picked up the rescued are eight officers and six midshipmen.

The British admiralty has not an- nounced the locality where the disaster occurred, and declares it is unable to say whether the ship struck a mine or was torpedoed, but the inclination here is to believe that a submarine again has been successful in attack.

News from the battle fronts on the continent was dwarfed to-day by the latest loss to the British navy, although big battles are taking place along the two fronts.

Fighting in Flanders and Northern France has been confined largely to artillery engagements, except near Bethune, where the Germans claim they have taken a British trench. The admit, however, the loss of St. George near the Belgian coast, which the Ger- mans

NOTE NOT WRITTEN FOR PUBLICATION

The note was phrased in a candid
and frank manner, he is understood to
have explained, particularly because it
was not written for publication. The
synopsis leaked out, however, the
ambassador had been instructed to ar-
range for publication of the complete
text. Incidentally, the ambassador
cabled that the British government
had corrected English newspaper re-
ports which spoke of a discourtesy in
premature publication. Mr. Page re-
plied that Lord Haldane, in charge
of the Foreign Office, was informed of
the purpose of the communication be-
fore even the first intimation of the
contents of the note was published.

Officials read the views in the British
press with much interest. It was
contended that England is fighting what
she believes to be a life and death
struggle. It was pointed out, was fully
recognized in the American note, but
it was contended that definite arrange-
ments will be put into effect to relieve
American exporters of uncertainty.

ENGLISH PUBLICATIONS COMMENT ON NOTE

LONDON, January 1 (7:10 P. M.).—
The Saturday Review describes Presi-
dent Wilson's note protesting against
the British attitude toward American
shipping as a "document from a can-
did friend, who, just because he is a
stranger, would be regarded as hav-
ing too rough an edge." The Review
does not think it should be impossible
for two governments, who have no
enemy to find causes for taking the of-
fensive, to reconcile their points of
view.

The position of a belligerent with
respect to command of the sea, says
this paper, is different, even when neu-
tral governments are friendly. It is
position is determined absolutely by
the fact that England has that com-
mand of the sea, and "cannot surrender
her right to use it for defeat of the
enemy by any means sanctioned under
international law."

Unfortunately, the Review continues,
it is necessary to interfere with the
custom of neutral countries of selling
in the dearest markets, but there is
evidence that Britain will "strain to
meet every reasonable complaint and
make the yoke of the trident as light
as possible."

(Continued on Second Page.)